

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 SCCT-01 /061 W

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R 290330Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5501

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL UDORN

DIA WASHDC

17AD UDORN TH

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6055

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: BOMBS AT THE LAO NATIONAL BANK

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: VIENTIANE 6044

1. THE OCTOBER 29 ISSUE OF THE VIENTIANE POST REPORTS THAT IT WAS TWO GRENADES THAT EXPLODED AT THE NATIONAL BANK. THE NEWSPAPER STATES THAT, ACCORDING TO THE POLICE, THEY WERE TIME DELAYED GRENADES AS THEY EXPLODED IN A ROOM OF THE VAULT WHICH THE PUBLIC COULD NOT ENTER. BANK EMPLOYEES WORKING IN THIS AREA HAD TO LEAVE THEIR BRIEF CASES AND PURSES OUTSIDE BEFORE ENTERING.

2. THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PERSONS INJURED. ONE MAN HAS HAD BOTH LEGS AMPUTATED AND IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION. ANOTHER LOST ONE LEG.

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3. ACCORDING TO A BANK EMPLOYEE, THERE WERE MORE THAN A HUNDRED PERSONS WORKING IN THE VAULT AREA WHEN THE EXPLOSIONS TOOK PLACE. THEY INCLUDED NOT ONLY BNL EMPLOYEES, BUT EMPLOYEES OF THE INDOCHINA BANK, THE BANK LAO VIENG AND THE BANK OF VIENTIANE AS WELL. THE SAME EMPLOYEE STATED THAT A BIT BEFORE THE EXPLOSIONS, THREE SACKS OF MONEY WERE ON THE TABLE, READY TO BE PLACED IN THE VAULT. AFTERWARDS, BANK NOTES WERE SPREAD ALL OVER THE AREA. THE THREE SACKS, ACCORDING TO THIS EMPLOYEE, PROBABLY BELONGED TO THE PHOUNSOUK PEPSI COMPANY, THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (COMMENT: ADO IS NOW CALLED THE ORGANIZATION FOR ENCOURAGING AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY) AND THE 555 COMPANY. THE SACKS FROM THOSE THREE COMPANIES HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO THE BANK THAT MORNING (OCTOBER 28).

4. OUDONE PHOLSENA, DIRECTOR OF THE BNL, HAD JUST STEPPED OUT OF THE ROOM WHEN THE EXPLOSIONS TOOK PLACE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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